

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 2004/001203

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: B65B 41/18, B65B 61/18, B67C 3/00
 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: B65B, B67C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| X | EP 1249399 A1 (TETRA LAVAL HOLDINGS & FINANCE S A), 16 October 2002 (16.10.2002), column 3, line 23 - column 5, line 13 | 1,3,4,9-11 |
| A | -- | 2,5-8 |
| A | EP 1110867 A1 (TETRA LAVAL HOLDINGS FINANCE S A), 27 June 2001 (27.06.2001), column 2, line 56 - column 4, line 40 | 1-11 |
| A | WO 9818608 A1 (TETRA LAVAL HOLDINGS & FINANCE S A), 7 May 1998 (07.05.1998), page 7, line 11 - page 9, line 28 | 1-11 |
| | -- ----- | |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 December 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

14-12-2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 1 - 8
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

Present claims 1-8 relate to an extremely large number of possible methods. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT
.../...

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Box II.2

and disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT are to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the methods claimed. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Independent of the above reasoning claims 1-8 also lack clarity. An attempt is made to define the method by using general and elusive terminology and reference to results to be achieved. Again, this lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible. The scope of protection claimed is therefore considered to be speculative and not to be sufficiently supported by the description.

Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of claims 1-8, which appear to be supported, and disclosed, namely those parts related to a first method for controllably conveying a web of packaging material to a desired position at a moulding station in a machine comprising a control unit, a sensor, a number of hole punch tools and moulding stations for moulding of opening devices onto web holes; and to a second method for filling packages at a station for top filling of packages.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

30/10/2004

International application No.

PCT/SE 2004/001203

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